



PRIVATE FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTIONS

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Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Private Fire Hydrant Systems

Purpose

This Bulletin is to assist fire department personnel and property owners with the requirements for inspections, testing and maintenance of private fire hydrants. Private fire hydrants are those hydrants not owned and maintained by the City of Riverside. It is the responsibility of the property owner to have all the fire hydrants inspected quarterly and tested once every year in accordance with N.F.P.A. 25/Title 19 & CFC, Section 904

Scope

Fire hydrants shall be maintained per the currently adopted version of N.F.P.A. 25/Title 19 the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Private Fire Main Systems. State Fire Marshal Forms AES 1 and AES 4 shall be used for recording the inspections. (CFC, Sections 507.5.2 & 904)

Requirements:

Private hydrants shall be inspected quarterly and tested/serviced annually, and the owner shall correct any deficiencies immediately. Inspections may be performed by the property owners, however the testing and maintenance service shall be provided by a qualified contractor. A qualified contractor is one that possesses one of the following licenses; General A or B, C-16, C-34 or C-36. Flow tests are required every 5 years. (CFC, Sections 507.5.2 & 904)

Inspection and Testing Fire Hydrants:

Inspect for obstructions such as post, fences, vehicles, trash, and storage. Maintain a 3-foot clear space around the hydrant. Observe the general conditions of the hydrant and check for cracks in the barrel and worn threads. Exercise the valves and lubricate the threads. Close and open the street valve; with the caps on, open the hydrant stem valve(s). Lubricate the stem valve with light white grease. Close the hydrant stem valves. With the hydrant valve(s) closed, open the caps; verify presence of gaskets and lubricate the threads. With the caps off, open the hydrant stem valve(s) and flow some water to verify that the street valve is open and to clean out any debris in the hydrant. One valve must be fully opened and flowed for at least 1 minute. (CFC, Sections 507.5.2, 507.5.4, 507.5.5 & 904)

Markings:

All private fire hydrants shall be painted in accordance with City of Riverside Fire Department standards. See Information Bulletin: D-11-005.